

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-20 were pending and rejected. Portions of the specification and drawings were objected. In this response, no claim has been canceled. Claims 1, 8, 15, and 20 have been amended. In addition, new claims 21-25 have been added. Thus, claims 1-25 remain pending. Portions of the specification have been amended. Formal drawings have been submitted. No new matter has been added.

Portions of the drawings were objected. Formal drawings have been submitted to overcome the objections. The Examiner further stated that the current method claims are not shown in the drawings. Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is fully supported by the specification and drawings as filed. Additional drawings regarding the method claims will be submitted when the present application is in condition of allowance.

Claims 1-4, 8-11, 15-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over an article of Teresa H. Meng, entitled "A Wireless Portable Video-on-Demand System" ("Meng"). Claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meng in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,650,782 of Joshi et al ("Joshi").

Claims 1-25 include limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, individually or in combination. Specifically, independent claim 1 as amended recites as follows:

1. A method comprising:  
receiving a codestream of compressed image data organized in a plurality of layers, wherein each of the plurality of layers comprises coded data that adds visual value to the image;

selecting one or more of the layers for quantization based on sideband information accompanying the codestream, wherein the sideband information includes information specifying the quantization that is to be performed; and decompressing non-quantized layers of the codestream.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 1 includes receiving a codestream having multiple layers of video data, selecting one or more layers for quantization based on the sideband information, where the sideband information includes information specifying the quantization that is to be performed on the selected layers. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from the cited references, individually or in combination.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated:

Meng shows “the input data of for the top level HL, HH is zero run length encoded the top level luminance HH as well as top level chrominance are all set to zero”, i.e Meng shows selecting one or more of the layers for quantization based on sideband information by selecting HL and HH top level bands and zero run length encoding, it is noted that highest frequency hands HH and LH which contains large percentage zero and Meng shows nonzero coefficients are stored in horizontal vector shown in page 5, parageaph 2.4, right-column, lies 13-14, thru page 6, paragraph 2.4, left-column, lines 1-3, i.e Meng shows horizontal vector which contain non-zero coefficients which is a sideband information which is store in horizontal vector and thereby provide information which bits are zero therefore zero run length encoded [quantizing])

(3/12/2004 Office Action, pages 3-4, emphasis added)

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The section relied upon by the Examiner does not relate to quantization processing. Rather, it is a part of zero processing of a subband decoder (see, col. 1, last two paragraphs of page 6).

The nonzero coefficients of Meng are stored in a horizontal vector, which is stored in the memory of the decoder, rather than a sideband area of the original codestream received. The purposes of such arrangements are to increase the efficiency of the memory usage of the decoder (see, col. 2, paragraph 2.4, page 5 of Meng). Further, the information stored in the

horizontal vector does not appear to include the information specifying the quantization that is to be performed. Rather, the coefficients stored in the horizontal area are the image data being processed.

In contrast, the present invention as claimed utilizes the sideband area in the codestream to store the quantization information when the codestream is transmitted. That is, the quantization information is stored in an area other than the area occupied by the layers of the video data, such as, for example, one or more markers of the codestream, during transmission of the codestream. When a quantizer receives such a codestream, it retrieves the quantization information from the sideband area and performs the quantization according to the retrieved information from the sideband area. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from Meng and Joshi. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is patentable over Meng in view of Joshi.

Similarly, independent claims 8, 15, and 20 include limitations similar to those recited in claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claims 8, 15, and 20 are patentable over Meng in view of Joshi.

Given that dependent claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-19, and 21-25 depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-19, and 21-25 are patentable over the cited references.

In addition, with respect to 2-4, 9-11, and 16-18, although the Examiner acknowledges that Meng fails to explicitly show sideband information, marker segment comprising comment marker, etc., the Examiner maintains that such limitations “do not carry patentable weight and these limitations are designed choice” (see, page 5 of the Office Action).

Applicant respectfully disagrees. There is no disclosure or suggestion within the cited references (e.g., Meng) to use these sideband information, which may be stored and

transmitted in a marker segment of the codestream, for quantization. Although the JPEG2000 includes some of the markers, there is no mention or suggestion within the cited references using the markers in such manners, particularly, in quantization of multiple layers in a codestream.

In order to render a claim obvious, each and every limitations of the claim must be taught by the cited references. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations set forth above. Such a suggestion can only be found in Applicant's disclosure. It would be impermissible hindsight to use Applicant's own disclosure against the Applicant.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.


Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date:

6/14/04

  
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